# http://www.ric.edu/webcommunications/images/SealWithText_Small_Black.pngUNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (UCC)PROPOSAL FORM

## Cover page scroll over blue text to see further important [instructions](#instructions): [if not working select “COMMents on rollover” in your Word preferences under view] **please read these.**

**N.B. ALL numbered categories in section (A) must be completed. Please do not use highlight to select choices within a category but simply delete the options that do not apply to your proposal (e.g. in A.2 if this is a course revision proposal, just delete the creation and deletion options and the various program ones, so it reads “course revision”) Do not delete any of the numbered categories—if they do not apply leave them blank. If there are no resources impacted please put “none” in each A. 7 category.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A.1. [Course or program](#Proposal) | **comm 451: Family communication** |  |
|  |  |
| A. 1b. Academic unit | **Faculty of Arts and Sciences**  |  |
| A.2. [Proposal type](#type) | **Course creation**  |  |
| A.3. [Originator](#Originator) | **Giselle Auger** | [Home department](#home_dept) | **Communication** |
| A.4. [Context and Rationale](#Rationale) Note: Must include additional information in smart tip for all [new programs](#type) | **We are proposing to create a new course with the name and number COMM 451: Family Communication. This course was previously offered as a “Special Topics” course (COMM 450), but we feel that it merits its own course listing so that it can be more clearly and effectively incorporated into our major. Family Communication is an important part of modern communication with its own set of issues and solutions that are worthwhile for today’s students.****The course will be used as a restricted elective within the Strategic Communication program as one of the options for Strategic Communication students for the “pick five courses” elective portion of the program requirements.** |
| A.5. [Student impact](#student_impact)Must include to explain why this change is being made? | **This course was offered as a ‘special topic’ and was popular with students. The course will provide an additional upper-level “Choice” option for our students to expand their understanding of sub-areas within the field of strategic communication. Providing the course with its own number and listing helps students who are browsing Communication courses and/or considering enrolling in the course.** |
| A.6. [Impact on other programs](#impact)  | **None** |
| A.7. [Resource impact](#Resource) | [*Faculty PT & FT*](#faculty):  | **None** |
| [*Library*:](#library) | **None** |
| [*Technology*](#technology) | **None** |
| [*Facilities*](#facilities): | **None** |
| A.8. [Semester effective](#Semester_effective) | **Fall 2023** | A.9. [Rationale if sooner than next Fall](#Semester_effective) |  |
| A.10. INSTRUCTIONS FOR CATALOG COPY: Use the Word copy versions of the catalog sections found on the UCC Forms and Information page. Cut and paste into a single file **ALL the relevant pages from the college catalog that need to be changed.** Use tracked changes feature to show how the catalog will be revised as you type in the revisions. If totally new copy, indicate where it should go in the catalog. If making related proposals a single catalog copy that includes all changes is preferred. Send catalog copy as a separate single Word file along with this form. |
| A.11. List here (with the relevant urls), any RIC website pages that will need to be updated (to which your department does not have access) if this proposal is approved, with an explanation as to what needs to be revised: N/A |
| A. 12 **Check to see if your proposal will impact any of our** [**transfer** **agreements,**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cgauger_6325%5CDownloads%5Ctransfer%20agreements) **and if it does explain in what way. Please indicate clearly what will need to be updated.** N/A |
| A. 13 Check the section that lists “Possible NECHE considerations” on the UCC Forms and Information page and if any apply, indicate what that might be here and contact Institutional Research for further guidance. N/A |

B. [NEW OR REVISED COURSES](#delete_if)  **Delete section B if the proposal does not include a new or revised course. As in section A. do not highlight but simply delete suggested options not being used. Always fill in b. 1 and B. 3 for context. NOTE: course learning outcomes and topical outlines only needed for new or substantially revised courses.**

|  | Old ([for revisions only](#Revisions))ONLY include information that is being revised, otherwise leave blank.  | NewExamples are provided within some of the boxes for guidance, delete just the examples that do not apply. |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.1. [Course prefix and number](#cours_title)  |  | **COMM 451** |
| B.2. Cross listing number if any |  |  |
| B.3. [Course title](#title)  |  | **Family Communication** |
| B.4. [Course description](#description)  |  | **Students will be exposed to research and theory in the scientific study of the family. Specifically, the course will focus on issues related to family interaction, functioning, relationships, and communication.** |
| B.5. [Prerequisite(s)](#prereqs) |  | **COMM 208** |
| B.6. [Offered](#Offered) |  | **Alternate years** |
| B.7. [Contact hours](#contacthours)  |  | **4** |
| B.8. [Credit hours](#credits) |  | **4** |
| B.9. [Justify differences if any](#differences) |  |
| B.10. [Grading system](#grading)  |  | **Letter grade** |
| B.11. [Instructional methods](#instr_methods) |  | **Seminar** |
| B.11.a [Delivery Method](#instr_methods) |  | **On campus** |
| B.12. CATEGORIES 12. a. [How](#required) to be used |  | **Free elective and Restricted Elective for major** |
|  12 b. Is this an Honors  course? |  | **No** |
|  12. c. [General Education](#ge) N.B. Connections must include at  least 50% Standard Classroom instruction. |  | **No** |
|  12. d. Writing in the  Discipline (WID) |  | **No** |
| B.13. [How will student performance be evaluated?](#performance) |  | **Class participation, Exams, Presentations, Papers, Projects.** |
| B.14 [Recommended class-size](#class_size" \o "Check appendix XVIII in the UCC Manual for Best Practices) |  | **20** |
| B.15. [Redundancy statement](#competing) |  | **N/A** |
| B. 16. Other changes, if any |  |

| B.17**.** [**Course learning outcomes**](#outcomes)**: List each one in a separate row** | [**Professional Org.Standard(s)**](#standards)**, if relevant** | [**How will each outcome be measured**](#measured)**?** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Know the different approaches and perspectives in studying family communication. | N/A | See B.13 |
| Be familiar with a variety of theories utilized in family communication. | N/A | See B.13 |
| Be more knowledgeable about the diversity of family structures, organization, and dynamics. | N/A | See B.13 |
| Understand how social science research is essential to our understanding of family relationships and communication. | N/A | See B.13 |
| Be able to apply conceptual ideas about family communication to real-life situations. | N/A | See B.13 |

| B.18. [**Topical outline**](#outline)**: DO NOT INSERT WHOLE SYLLABUS, JUST A TWO-TIER TOPIC OUTLINE suitable for the contact hours requested. Proposals that ignore this request will be returned for revision.** |
| --- |
| 1. Basic Family Processes
	1. Defining family communication
	2. Theories in family communication
	3. Family discourse and identity
	4. Family communication patterns and processes
2. Communication in Family Subsystems
	1. Romantic relationships
	2. Marriage and committed relationships
	3. Parent-child relationships
	4. Sibling relationships
	5. Extended family relationships
3. Communication and Family Stress
	1. Models of family stress and coping
	2. Normative and nonnormative stressors
	3. Divorce
	4. Renegotiating communication in remarriage and stepfamilies
4. Family Communication and Health
	1. Family communication and mental health
	2. Family communication and physical health
	3. Family violence and abuse
	4. Improving family communication and relationships
 |

## D. Signatures

* **Changes that affect General Education in any way MUST be approved by ALL Deans and COGE Chair**.
* Changes that directly impact more than one department/program MUST have the signatures of all relevant department chairs, program directors, and their relevant dean (e.g. when creating/revising a program using courses from other departments/programs). Check UCC manual 4.2 for further guidelines on whether the signatures need to be approval or acknowledgement.
* Proposals that do not have appropriate approval signatures will not be considered.
* Type in name of person signing and their position/affiliation.
* Send electronic files of this proposal and accompanying catalog copy to curriculum@ric.edu to the current Chair of UCC. Check UCC website for due dates. Do NOT convert to a .pdf.

##### D.1. Approvals: required from programs/departments/deans who originate the proposal. THESE may include multiple departments, e.g., for joint/interdisciplinary proposals.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#_Signature" \o "Insert electronic signature, if available, in this column) | Date |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Giselle Auger | Chair of Communication | Giselle A. Auger | 2/24/2023 |
| Earl Simson | Dean of Faculty of Arts & Sciences | Earl Simson | 3/6/2023 |

##### D.2. [Acknowledgements](#acknowledge): REQUIRED from OTHER PROGRAMS/DEPARTMENTS (and their relevant deans if not already included above) that are IMPACTED BY THE PROPOSAL. SIGNATURE DOES NOT INDICATE APPROVAL, ONLY AWARENESS THAT THE PROPOSAL IS BEING SUBMITTED. CONCERNS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE UCC COMMITTEE MEETING FOR DISCUSSION; all faculty are welcome to attend.

| Name | Position/affiliation | [Signature](#Signature_2) | Date |
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|  |  |  | Tab to add rows |